

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1       1. A method for improving open loop power control in  
2       spread spectrum telecommunications systems, the method  
3       comprising the steps of:

4                 transmitting at least one first access channel probe  
5       for a first message from a mobile station to a base station,  
6       the transmission power level of each access channel probe in  
7       the at least one first access channel probe being increased  
8       until a base station acknowledgment is received for a  
9       specific access channel probe of the at least one first  
10      access channel probe at a first transmission power level;

11               storing the first transmission power level at the  
12      mobile station; and

13               transmitting at least one second access channel probe  
14       for a second message from the mobile station to the base  
15       station, the transmission power level of an initial access  
16       channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
17       probe for the second message being based upon the first  
18       transmission power level.

1       2. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising  
2       the step of:

3                 storing a recently measured received code power from  
4       the base station at the mobile station, the transmission  
5       power level of the initial access channel probe of the at  
6       least one second access channel probe for the second message  
7       being further based upon the recently measured received code  
8       power.

9       3. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising  
10      the step of:

11                storing a recently measured base station interference  
12       level at the mobile station, the transmission power level of  
13       the initial access channel probe of the at least one second  
14       access channel probe for the second message being further  
15       based upon the recently measured base station interference  
16       level.

17       4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the first  
18       message is a first packet and the second message is a second  
19       packet in a packet mode transmission.

1       5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the  
2 transmission power level of an initial access channel probe  
3 of the at least one first access channel probe for the first  
4 message is based upon a path loss between the mobile station  
5 and the base station.

6       6. The method as defined in claim 5, wherein the  
7 transmission power level of an initial access channel probe  
8 of the at least one first access channel probe for the first  
9 message is further based upon a base station interference  
0 level.

1       7. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the  
2 transmission power level of the initial access channel probe  
3 of the at least one second access channel probe for the  
4 second message is closer to the first transmission power  
5 level than a transmission power level of an initial access  
6 channel probe of the at least one first access channel probe  
7 for the first message.

18      8. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the  
19 transmission power level of the initial access channel probe

1       of the at least one second access channel probe for the  
2       second message is closer to a transmission power level that  
3       is required to have the initial access channel probe reach  
4       the base station than a transmission power level of an  
5       initial access channel probe of the at least one first  
6       access channel probe for the first message.

7       9.      The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the  
8       transmission power level of the second message is at or  
9       slightly above a transmission power level that is required  
10      to have the second message reach the base station.

11      10.     An apparatus for improving open loop power control in  
12      spread spectrum telecommunications systems, the apparatus  
13      comprising:

14           at least one memory for storing a first transmission  
15      power level of a specific access channel probe of at least  
16      one first access channel probe for a first message  
17      transmitted from a mobile station to a base station, the  
18      specific access channel probe of the at least one first  
19      access channel probe being the first access channel probe to  
20      receive an acknowledgment from the base station; and

1           at least one processor for determining a second  
2        transmission power level of an initial access channel probe  
3        of at least one second access channel probe for a second  
4        message to be transmitted from the mobile station to the  
5        base station, the second transmission power level of the  
6        initial access channel probe of the at least one second  
7        access channel probe for the second message being determined  
8        based upon first transmission power level.

9           11. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
0        memory also stores a recently measured received code power  
1        from the base station, the second transmission power level  
2        of the initial access channel probe of the at least one  
3        second access channel probe for the second message being  
4        further based upon the recently measured received code  
5        power.

6           12. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
7        memory also stores a recently measured base station  
8        interference level, the second transmission power level of  
9        the initial access channel probe of the at least one second  
0        access channel probe for the second message being further

1       based upon the recently measured base station interference  
2       level.

3       13. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the first  
4       message is a first packet and the second message is a second  
5       packet in a packet mode transmission.

6       14. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
7       transmission power level of an initial access channel probe  
8       of the at least one first access channel probe for the first  
9       message is based upon a path loss between the mobile station  
10      and the base station.

11      15. The apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein the  
12      transmission power level of an initial access channel probe  
13      of the at least one first access channel probe for the first  
14      message is further based upon a base station interference  
15      level.

16      16. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
17      second transmission power level of the initial access  
18      channel probe of the at least one second access channel

1 probe for the second message is closer to the first  
2 transmission power level than a transmission power level of  
3 an initial access channel probe of the at least one first  
4 access channel probe for the first message.

5 17. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
6 second transmission power level of the initial access  
7 channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
8 probe for the second message is closer to a transmission  
9 power level that is required to have the initial access  
0 channel probe reach the base station than a transmission  
1 power level of an initial access channel probe of the at  
2 least one first access channel probe for the first message.

3 18. The apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the  
4 second transmission power level of the initial access  
5 channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
6 probe for the second message is at or slightly above a  
7 transmission power level that is required to have the  
8 initial access channel probe reach the base station.

1       19. An article of manufacture for improving open loop power  
2       control in spread spectrum telecommunications systems, the  
3       article of manufacture comprising:

4               at least one processor readable carrier; and  
5               instructions carried on the at least one carrier;  
6       wherein the instructions are configured to be readable from  
7       the at least one carrier by at least one processor and  
8       thereby cause the at least one processor to operate so as  
9       to:

10              transmit at least one first access channel probe for a  
11       first message from a mobile station to a base station, the  
12       transmission power level of each access channel probe in the  
13       at least one first access channel probe being increased  
14       until a base station acknowledgment is received for a  
15       specific access channel probe of the at least one first  
16       access channel probe at a first transmission power level;

17              store the first transmission power level at the mobile  
18       station; and

19              transmit at least one second access channel probe for a  
20       second message from the mobile station to the base station,  
21       the transmission power level of an initial access channel  
22       probe of the at least one second access channel probe for

1       the second message being based upon the first transmission  
2       power level.

3       20. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
4       further causing the at least one processor to operate so as  
5       to:

6              store a recently measured received code power from the  
7       base station at the mobile station, the transmission power  
8       level of the initial access channel probe of the at least  
9       one second access channel probe for the second message being  
0       further based upon the recently measured received code  
1       power.

2       21. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
3       further causing the at least one processor to operate so as  
4       to:

5              store a recently measured base station interference  
6       level at the mobile station, the transmission power level of  
7       the initial access channel probe of the at least one second  
8       access channel probe for the second message being further  
9       based upon the recently measured base station interference  
0       level.

1       22. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
2       wherein the first message is a first packet and the second  
3       message is a second packet in a packet mode transmission.

4       23. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
5       wherein the transmission power level of an initial access  
6       channel probe of the at least one first access channel probe  
7       for the first message is based upon a path loss between the  
8       mobile station and the base station.

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9       24. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 23,  
10      wherein the transmission power level of an initial access  
11      channel probe of the at least one first access channel probe  
12      for the first message is further based upon a base station  
13      interference level.

14      25. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
15      wherein the transmission power level of the initial access  
16      channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
17      probe for the second message is closer to the first  
18      transmission power level than a transmission power level of

1       an initial access channel probe of the at least one first  
2       access channel probe for the first message.

3       26. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
4       wherein the transmission power level of the initial access  
5       channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
6       probe for the second message is closer to a transmission  
7       power level that is required to have the initial access  
8       channel probe reach the base station than a transmission  
9       power level of an initial access channel probe of the at  
0       least one first access channel probe for the first message.

11      27. The article of manufacture as defined in claim 19,  
12      wherein the transmission power level of the initial access  
13      channel probe of the at least one second access channel  
14      probe for the second message is at or slightly above a  
15      transmission power level that is required to have the  
16      initial access channel probe reach the base station.